



'11-'12 Annual Report

May 2012

Wallace B. Jefferson Middle School Library An Exemplary School Library Program

Learning @ the Library

This has been an busy, exciting and challenging year in the library. **Budget cuts** resulted in the loss of the library assistant in February of '11 and so the year began with just the librarian to serve over 1550 students.

Library orientations for all grade levels began the year so that students could locate and access both the print and digital resources available to them. Additional lessons included **using the library catalog**, **understanding the Dewey Decimal system** so they could locate nonfiction items, **using a dictionary and encyclopedia**, and **using one or more of the subscription databases** such as **World Book Online**, **Facts on File** (for science and social studies), and **Proquest** (a periodical database).

Students also received instruction in how to **avoid plagiarism** and **create MLA citations** using **Citation Machine** and **EasyBib**, two excellent online citation creators.

Eight graders were introduced the **Bridges** career and college plan-

Library Statistics

(8-22-11 to 5-15-12)



New Items Added to
Collection = 776



Items Circulated = 29,419



Student Visits = 8,956



Total number of
books = 25,719



Number of Databases = 8

ning database which resulted in a research project focused on their futures.

Encouraging lifelong learning and a love of reading are two goals of the library. Students were **introduced to new titles** through book-talks and book trailers. They were encouraged to read the titles on the Lone Star list, 20 books recommended each year by the Texas Library Association. Students were

also encouraged to take part in the Library Palooza Teen Author Event that was held in February.

Students are encouraged to continue reading by participating in the **San Antonio Public Library's Summer Reading Program**. The children's program is open to kids 0-12 yrs of age and the teen program is for those 13-18 years of age. You can find more information about the program at www.mysapl.org

It is the mission of the Wallace B. Jefferson Middle School Library to provide opportunities to imagine, explore, create, and share using 21st century information and technology resources in support of student achievement.

6 English classes spent time in the library during their poetry unit learning to create MLA citations for poetry that found online using Citation Machine. They visited again in December to learn about Newspaper: parts of the newspaper, layout, and journalistic writing.

Science classes made a number of visits for research on the Elements and Astronomy. In addition to learning how to use the World Book online, students were taught how to turn in their work electronically.

Social studies classes came to the library to research a country of the

students choosing, learning more about the geography, economy, and culture using the Facts on File database.

7 Natural Disasters were the focus of this **Science** research project. Students used print resources to learn more about hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, wildfires, volcanoes, and landslides. They were shown how to properly document their book resources in MLA format.

8 Poetry started the year off for **English** classes. Students used print resources and the internet to find poems that related thematically with the novel they had

read. Social studies classes also came in those first weeks receiving instruction in web site evaluation, encouraging them to become critical consumers of internet information.

Science classes made a few trips the library completing research on inventors in the field of chemistry and on another occasion, studying Newton's Law, Force and Motion. Students were using a variety of resources including print, subscription databases, and the internet.

For more information about the libraries programs and resources, visit the [Jefferson Library home page](#).



Class Visits = 973

Northside Libraries Have Gone Digital!

One of the greatest accomplishments this year for Northside libraries is the implementation of the **new digital library**. The library, which includes eBooks, audiobooks, music, and movies, is available 24/7 to current NISD students. All



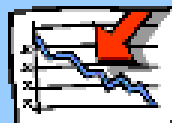
students need to log-in is their student ID number. These books work on a variety of devices including iPod Touches, iPod

nanos, and a variety of Smartphones. You can get more information about compatible devices at the [Northside Digital Library](#) link on the Jefferson Library home page.

All 1550+ students were introduced to the Digital library in March. Some students were even able to set up their devices and begin using them to read or listen to books. **This effort has resulted in Jefferson MS having the highest usage rate for any library in the district.** Parents may also use the library by signing in with their child's number. This is a great way to keep students reading over the summer.

There are currently 5,156 items in the digital library.

Budget Cuts Hurt Libraries



Budget cuts have resulted in a **decrease in services** throughout the library program. The first and most obvious is a **decrease in the number of hours the library is open**. With only one person to supervise the library, the **number of students allowed to visit the library** before and after school has also been decreased.

A less obvious impact is the **decrease in one-to-one informal instruction** that occurs when students are in the library doing research and working on the computers. One of the more critical impacts is the **decrease in collaboration time with classroom teachers**. Lessons and units of instruction are enriched with teacher/librarian collaboration and this has been impossible. With no library assistant, it's a choice between collaboration and further reducing the hours the library is available to students.

The **library collection suffers** also as a result of the cuts. Misshelved books, lack of time to repair damaged or worn books, and longer wait times to get new materials processed are all a problem.

Even **maintaining the Library web page** to provide 24/7 virtual access to the library resources is hampered.